

**Kelly Air Force Base Restoration Advisory Board Meeting**  
**January 27, 1997 6 p.m.**  
**Dwight Middle School**

**Members/Alternates Present:**

Mr. Juan Solis, Sr., RAB Community Co-Chair  
Ms. Annalisa Peace  
Dr. Gene Lené  
Mr. Paul Person  
Mr. Edward Weinstein  
Mr. Gary Beyer  
Mr. Paul Roberson

Mr. Edward Riojas, Jr., RAB Base Co-Chair  
Mr. Tom Culbertson  
Mr. Sam Sanchez  
Mr. Armando Quintanilla  
Mr. George Rice  
Mr. Nicholas Rodriguez, Jr.  
Mrs. Yolanda Johnson

**Members Absent Without Alternate:**

Mr. Sam Murrah  
Mr. Allan Hagelthorn

Mr. Thomas Moore  
Mr. Carl Mixon

**Kelly Air Force Base Staff Present:**

Mr. Larry Bailey  
Mr. Denton Langford  
Mr. Edward Roberson  
Mr. Juan Perez  
Mr. Luis Medina  
Dr. Michael Jarrard  
Ms. Rhonda Hampton  
Mr. James Little

Mr. Dan Medina  
Mr. Gerry Arriaga  
Ms. Hilary Naab  
Mr. Joe Ebert  
Ms. Sonia Gallegos  
Capt. Carl Sepulveda  
Capt. Tom deVenoge

**Item I: Call to Order**

- A. Meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m., with Mr. Edward Riojas, Base Co-chair conducting.
- B. The RAB members introduced themselves.

**Item II: Discussion/Approval of Minutes**

The minutes were approved without change.

**Item III: Administrative Topics**

- A. Election of RAB members and Community Co-chair
  - 1. Mr. Riojas announced that eight of the RAB members have completed their one-year term and are up for reelection. Those members are as follows: Mr. Sam

Sanchez, Mr. George Rice, Mr. Nick Rodriguez, Mr. Armando Quintanilla, Mr. Thomas Moore, Dr. Gene Lené, Mr. Allan Hagelthorn and Ms. Yolanda Johnson. In addition, he said four vacancies need to be filled and applications would be accepted tonight from anyone wishing to fill the vacancies.

2. The Community Co-chair position was also scheduled for reelection; however, Mr. Riojas asked that the vote be delayed until the next meeting due to the number of vacancies on the RAB. Following discussion, the RAB decided that the election would be held in this meeting as scheduled.

**B. RAB Member Elections**

1. Each of the eight RAB members whose terms had expired, asked to be considered for reelection to their positions on the board. All were reelected by a majority of RAB members. No applications were received from the public, leaving four vacancies on the board.

**A. Election of the Community Co-Chair**

1. Mr. Juan Solis and Ms. Annalisa Peace were nominated as candidates for community co-chair. Ms. Peace was elected for a one-year term.

**Item III: RAB Activities Report**

**A. Mr. Riojas reported on the RAB's activities since the last meeting.**

1. Four members of the RAB witnessed a seismic survey done at Zone 3 in December. The purpose of the survey was to gather geologic data to help engineers design a system to clean up contaminated groundwater in the area.
2. Several RAB members participated in a soil sampling activity on the north end of the base. This included taking soil samples both on base and off base.

**Item IV: Jettisoning of Air Craft Fuel**

- A. Lt. Col. Paul Ramsey, commander of the 313<sup>th</sup> Flight Test Squadron at Kelly AFB,** spoke to the Board about the Air Force's policy on fuel dumping. He said, to his knowledge, at Kelly, no fuel had ever been dumped from aircraft, except in an emergency situation. He said the Air Force has strict regulations on how and where fuel should be dumped. He emphasized that as a pilot, he could think of no instance when a pilot would dump fuel from an aircraft on its final approach for landing. He said this would be a dangerous maneuver, because it would cause a dramatic change in the aircraft's flight characteristics at a critical time.

**B. Questions and Comments**

Ms. Johnson said that in the Vietnam era, she remembered that a mist would fall over her house when the planes landed. She said she does not know what it was the planes dumped, but she knows it happened. Mr. Quintanilla asked if the Public Affairs office would have any information regarding any emergency dumping of fuel. Mr. Riojas said he would check and have a report at the next meeting.

## **Item V: Installation Restoration Program (IRP) Update**

Mr. Dan Medina, Kelly AFB, gave a brief update on IRP activities since the last meeting. (See attached slides.) He stated that people in the areas of future pump tests would be notified prior to testing.

### **A. Zone 3 Update**

Mr. Juan Perez, Kelly AFB, presented an update on Zone 3. (See attached slides.)

### **B. Questions and Comments**

Mr. George Rice asked if any design work had been done on the cleanup system for Zone 3 to date. Mr. Perez answered that no design has been done and that field work was done for data collection only.

Mr. Tom Culbertson criticized the seismic survey work and said it was a waste of taxpayer money. He said the same work could be done by more conventional methods.

Mr. Perez said the seismic survey was done to show geologists where the top of the Navarro Clay layer was located. He said this information was crucial to designing the cleanup system properly.

Ms. Peace said the Technical Subcommittee had discussed the issue at a previous meeting and agreed the seismic testing was a suitable and cost-effective technology to gather the necessary data.

## **Item VI: Quintana Road, McLaughlin & Bynum Stormwater Project**

- A. Mr. Gabriel Perez, City of San Antonio Public Works, and a representative from the contractor Fernandez, Frazier White & Associates, gave an update on the Quintana Road drainage project. (See attached slides.) After giving a brief history of the project, he indicated the alternative has been selected for rerouting the draining culvert. Instead of running down Quintana Road as originally planned, it will be diverted to McLaughlin Street to Bynum Street and then back to Quintana Road. (See attached map.)

### **B. Questions and Comments**

Mr. Quintanilla, who lives in the affected area, stated McLaughlin Street had already been dug up for a drainage project about 10 years ago and that he considered it a waste of taxpayer money to redo something that had already been done. He expressed concern that residents, already inconvenienced by the contamination, were going to be inconvenienced again by the construction, dust and restricted access to their homes. He said he feared many small businesses along Quintana Road would be adversely affected by the construction. He also expressed concern that the project would not be completed because of a lack of funding. He asked that the people be kept informed and involved in the process. He said the people of that area deserve environmental justice.

Mr. Perez said that the city is concerned about the residents and will make a concerted effort to keep them informed and involved throughout the process. Regarding funding, he said the project is currently funded for about \$5 million of its expected \$9.7 million cost. He said the Air Force and the city will be discussing how to fund the remainder of the project. He said the project will take approximately 18-24 months to finish, but will be completed in phases. This phased approach will minimize the effect to residents and businesses.

Mr. Rice asked if the project would interfere with the cleanup projects. Mr. Perez said that is being taken into account.

A short break was taken.

#### **Item VII: Status of Soil/Air Sampling (Fuel Tank Farm Area)**

- A. Mr. Larry Bailey, Kelly AFB, gave a short presentation regarding the soil samples that were taken on the north side of the base in December. He said that 105 separate samples were taken and thoroughly analyzed for contaminants. He said the results showed no pattern of surface soil contamination related to any sites at Kelly and no immediate areas of concern.

#### **B. Questions and Comments**

Mr. Rice, said he disagreed with the Air Force's analysis of the data and had samples of his own that contradict what the Air Force is reporting. He said several of his samples showed levels of lead and arsenic above naturally occurring levels. He said he did not know, however, if these levels presented any health risk. He also said the Air Force did not take enough samples where water could have carried contaminants off base. He also said many of the Kelly samples were taken in areas that have been filled in since the reported incidents of flooding. He said he would like to see more samples taken in those areas.

Mr. Bailey said the samples were taken to determine whether or not a health risk existed off base. He said he believes the sampling accomplished that goal.

Mr. Gary Beyer, Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, was asked if he could determine a health risk based on the data Mr. Rice presented. He said he would need more information and more time to examine the data.

Ms. Johnson asked if additional samples would be taken farther into the community? Mr. Riojas said that will be determined in the next Technical Subcommittee Meeting.

## **Item VIII: Technical Subcommittee Report**

Mr. Rice said he is still waiting to meet with the Air Force and its contractors regarding the design of the cleanup system at Zone 3. He also is waiting to meet with Capt. Carl Sepulveda, Kelly AFB Bioenvironmental Engineering, regarding the air sampling in North Kelly Gardens.

### **A. Questions and Comments**

Mr. Bailey said Zone 3 had been discussed at the last Technical Subcommittee Meeting.

## **Item VII: Public Questions and Comments**

Mrs. Adame asked when she was going to be able to visit the Industrial Waste Water Treatment Plant to pinpoint the source of the smell. She was promised a tour at the last meeting, but due to the illness of the responsible staff member she has yet to go. She also asked about the drilling activities on Beech Street. Mr. Medina said she could take her tour as soon as her schedule permitted. The activities on Beech Street consisted of contractors taking soil samples.

## **Item VIII: Next RAB Meeting**

A. The next RAB meeting was set for 28 April 1997, at Dwight Middle School.

B. Action/Agenda Items:

1. Post-Closure Care Permit-adding areas off base to the wording -- Kelly AFB
2. EPA Lead Education Program -- EPA
3. RAB member training - including Environmental Justice -- Kelly AFB
4. Greater Kelly Development Corporation Update -- GKDC
5. Frequency of RAB meetings -- RAB Board
6. Records of emergency fuel dumping -- Kelly AFB

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

### **Attachments**

1. Agenda
2. Ballots for members and community co-chair
3. Presentation slides of IRP Update
4. Presentation slides of Quintana Road Drainage Extension